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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

December 13, 2017

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
LIVESTOCK AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COMMODITY EXCHANGES, ENERGY,
AND CREDIT

DEPUTY WHIP

Sen. Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate
U.S. Capitol, S-230
Washington, D.C. 20510

Sen. Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate
U.S. Capitol, S-221
Washington, D.C. 205

Dear Senators:

This week, Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe mailed letters to Virginia families enrolled in the Virginia's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) informing participants that the program will cease after January 31 of next year. It has been nearly three months since authorization of this program expired and Senate inaction is now directly impacting the health and prosperity of our constituents in Virginia, as well as families across the United States.

As you know, the House of Representatives passed legislation reauthorizing CHIP for five years on November 3, 2017. H.R. 3922, the CHAMPIONING HEALTHY KIDS Act, also included reauthorization for Community Health Centers, the National Health Service Corps, and the Special Diabetes Program. The Senate Finance Committee has authored companion legislation, S. 1827, the Keep Kids' Insurance Dependable and Secure Act.

Further delay on this issue is not acceptable. We urge you to pass the House bill as-is, or swiftly take up the Senate Finance Committee's version so that the chambers may enter conference negotiations as soon as possible. Our constituents cannot wait another week for certainty that this program will continue.

Bob Goodlatte
Member of Congress

Robert J. Wittman
Member of Congress

Barbara Comstock
Member of Congress

Sincerely,

Dave Brat
Member of Congress

Scott Taylor
Member of Congress

Thomas A. Garrett Jr.
Member of Congress